

CITY OF HAYWARD
AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE 01/17/06

AGENDA ITEM _____

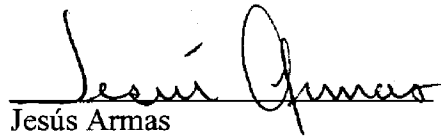
WORK SESSION ITEM WS#2

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: Discussion Regarding Possible Sister City Relationship With Ghazni, Afghanistan

This item appears on the agenda at the request of Councilmember Bill Quirk. Transmitted herewith is information developed by the Formation Committee for your consideration.


Jesús Armas
City Manager

Attachment

Memorandum

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Council Member Bill Quirk

Date: 1/13/2006

Re: Formation of a Sister City Relationship with Ghazni Afghanistan

In this packet, you have three items relating to activities of the Hayward-Ghazni Sister City Formation Committee:

- a brochure describing the Committee's activities,
- a partial list of those who have contributed time and/or money to the Committee during 2005, and
- a draft of a letter the Committee proposes to send to the Mayor of Ghazni eliciting his interest in a Sister City relationship.

After a presentation by the committee on this coming Tuesday, the committee would like to hear if the Council is interested in pursuing a Sister-City Relationship with Ghazni Afghanistan, and if there are any other steps the Council wishes us to take before submitting the relationship to the Council for approval.

What can you do?

- Join us
- Help with projects
- Come to meetings
- Organize events
- Start a new Pen Pals project
- Do what you can

Your membership in the Hayward-Ghazni Sister City Formation Committee, donations, and project support help to improve communications and relations between Afghanistan and the United States. In addition, they help the Committee to inform the public about current conditions, opportunities and projects in Ghazni.

Membership Dues

- ☐ \$30 Semi-Annual
- ☐ \$60 Annual
- ☐ \$12 Student/Seniors Semi-Annual
- ☐ \$24 Student/Seniors Annual
- ☐ Donations
- ☐ Widow's Literacy Project
- ☐ _____ Project

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Hayward-Ghazni Sister City Formation Committee
PO Box 4811 Hayward, CA 94540-4811

The Hayward-Ghazni Sister City Formation Committee is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Membership dues and contributions are tax deductible. Our IRS charitable case number is 953190027, and our tax EIN is 93-1048117 as a DBA of San Francisco Family Stress Center, Inc.

After over twenty years of war, the City of Ghazni, Afghanistan welcomes Hayward's helping hand of friendship.



School Children in Ghazni

Hayward Ghazni Sister City Formation Committee

Meeting Dates, Locations and Times

Committee meetings are held monthly on the first Wednesday of every month from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in Room 5 Centennial Hall, 22292 Foothill Blvd. Hayward, CA 94541. Entrance is on City Center Drive, behind the Safeway.

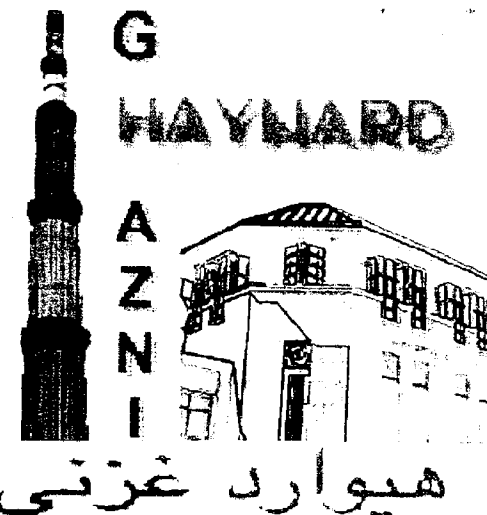
Contact Information

For more information regarding the Hayward-Ghazni Sister City Formation Committee and meetings, contact Rahima Haya at rahimahaya@yahoo.com

Bill Quirk, Hayward City Council
Member at 510-581-5498

Audrey LePell, Former Chair
at 510-785-2840

Brochure design donated
by Erickson and Springer



THE HAYWARD-GHAZNI SISTER CITY FORMATION COMMITTEE

What do we do?

Members of the Committee assist in extending the hand of friendship from the United States of America to the world, one city at a time, one person at a time, through the Sister City relationship between Hayward, California and Ghazni, Afghanistan.

Who are we?

We are a group of Americans including Afghan Americans who are residents of the City of Hayward and Northern California that have begun to establish a friendship relationship with the City of Ghazni, Afghanistan.

Ghazni, Afghanistan Fast Facts



Location: Ghazni is 92 miles southwest of Afghanistan's capital of Kabul at 33° 0' N latitude, 68° 25' E longitude, 7280 feet above sea level in Ghazni Province.

Population 136,338 residents in 2004

Historical Information: It is thought that the Aryans settled what now is called Afghanistan in 2000 BC. In the 11th century, under Mahmud of Ghazna, Ghazni became the capital of the vast empire of the Ghaznavids. From 1978 through 2001, the Afghans experienced years of war. A comprehensive history can be found at www.afghan-web.com/history/

Additional information on Ghazni can be found at the Afghan Friends Network Web site www.afghanfriends.net/

2005 Activities and Projects

Widow's Literacy Project

The literacy rate of Afghan women is among the lowest in the world. The Widow's Literacy Project in Ghazni will send 30 females in one year from 1st through 3rd grade for less than \$3000. To help and for more information contact Chair Rahima Asefi Haya at 510 306-3829.

"Teaching Rainbows and Radio Waves"

The Hayward-Ghazni Sister City Formation Committee cosponsored an event held in February 2005 by Afghan Friends Network that collected over \$12,000 in funds for essential school supplies and science teacher training in Ghazni.

Tyrrell Elementary School Letters

The Tyrrell Elementary School fifth graders in Hayward sent pictures of themselves and letters in May to the students at Jahan Malika High School in Ghazni.

2004 Activities and Projects

Ghazni Governor Asadullah Khalid visited the City of Hayward in 2004. He was hosted by the Hayward-Ghazni Sister City Formation Committee and the Afghan Friends Network.

Students from Jahan Malika High School in Ghazni sent handmade craft items and letters to the fifth grade students from Tyrrell Elementary School in Hayward who in return sent a letter and a banner to students in Ghazni.

Hayward, California Fast Facts

Location: Hayward is part of the San Francisco Bay Area, 74 miles southwest of California's capital of Sacramento at 37° 40' N latitude, 122° 7' W longitudes, 111 feet above sea level in Alameda County.

Population: 144,633 resident in 2004

Historical Information: Before the arrival of the Spaniards, the Ohlone Indians settled the Hayward area. In 1830, Don Guillermo Castro and his wife started a ranch that included much of present day downtown Hayward and Castro Valley. In 1852, at the invitation of Don Castro, William Hayward bought 40 acres of land spanning what is now the downtown Hayward area. He opened a general store, which soon prospered into a stagecoach stop, a post office, a hostelry and a dairy farm. The mail was dropped at Hayward's Hotel, and the area became known as Hayward's. In 1876, the area was incorporated as the "Town of Haywards" with a population of 1,100. In 1894, the "s" was dropped.

For more information see, www.ci.hayward.ca.us/

As the crow flies, there are 7508 miles between Ghazni, Afghanistan and Hayward, California.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Partial list of those who have donated time and/or money to				
2	the Hayward-Ghazni Sister City Formation Committee in 200				
3	First Name	Last Name	City	State	Zip
4	Lori	Baptista	Hayward	CA	94542
5	Sandra	Bidwell	Hayward	CA	94544
6	John	Caldwell	Hayward	CA	94542
7	Del	Della-Dorro	Hayward	CA	94542
8	Kevin	Dowling	Hayward	CA	94544
9	Jim	Forsyth	Hayward	CA	94541
10	Olia	Furmully	Hayward	CA	94544
11	Elsa	Glines	Hayward	CA	94541
12	Barbara	Halliday	Hayward	CA	94545
13	Judy	Harrison	Hayward	CA	94542
14	Meryem	Katibi	Hayward	CA	94545
15	Johan	Klehs	Hayward	CA	94541
16	Audrey	LePell	Hayward	CA	94541
17	Rica	Llorente	Hayward	CA	94545
18	Gail	Lundholm	Hayward	CA	94541
19	Julie	McKillop	Hayward	CA	94541
20	Rick & Nonnie	Moore	Hayward	CA	94545
21	Richard	Morgret	Hayward	CA	94542
22	Steve	Murtaugh	Hayward	CA	94542
23	Maria	Ochoa	Hayward	CA	94542
24	Bill	Quirk	Hayward	CA	94542
25	Beverly	Reliford	Hayward	CA	94545
26	Clarice	Roberts	Hayward	CA	94545
27	Gail	Steele	Hayward	CA	94541
28	Michael	Sweeney	Hayward	CA	94542
29	Ursula	Batz	Castro Valley	CA	94546
30	Trish	Taylor	Castro Valley	CA	94546
31	Marilyn	Ashlin	Concord	CA	94519
32	Taymur	Malikyar	Concord	CA	94518
33	Ghulam Qade	Popal	Concord	CA	94518
34	Quyyum	Kochai	Fremont	CA	94555
35	Hamid	Nekrawesh	Fremont	CA	94555
36	Masood	Sattari	Fremont	CA	94555
37	Marianne	O'Grady	Greenbrae	CA	94909
38	Tarek	Naward	Livermore	CA	94551
39	Zora	Ghilzai	N Bethesda	MD	20852
40	Nabila	Ghilzai	Newark	CA	94560
41	Rozan	Ahad	Oakland	CA	94612
42	Eva	Camarena	Oakland	CA	94607
43	Dawn	Erickson	Oakland	CA	94611
44	Jim	Springer	Oakland	CA	94611
45	Rahima	Haya	Pleasanton	CA	94588
46	Mike	Fauzy	Sacramento	CA	95827
47	Pietro	Calogero	San Francisco	CA	94103
48	David	Fleishhacker	San Francisco	CA	94118
49	Humaira	Ghilzai	San Francisco	CA	94127
50	Carol Ruth	Silver	San Francisco	CA	94103
51	Behrouz	Talai	San Francisco	CA	94127

	A	B	C	D	E
52	Sienna	Wong	San Francisco	CA	94132
53	Ellen	Corbett	San Leandro	CA	94577
54	Malaya	Flores	San Leandro	CA	94578
55	Susan	Aumack	San Mateo	CA	94402
56	Frederik	Goris	Union City	CA	94587
57	Rona	Popal	Union City	CA	94587
58	Abdul Basir	Qudus	Union City	CA	94587
59	Mary	Qudus	Union City	CA	94587
60	Humah	Bargzie			



January 17, 2006

Mayor Hakim Ghaznival
Ghazni City, Province of Ghazni
Afghanistan

**HAYWARD-GHAZNI
SISTER CITY
FORMATION COMMITTEE
PO Box 4811
HAYWARD, CA
94540-4811**

In Re: Request for Expression of Interest in a Sister-City
Relationship with Hayward, California, USA

Dear Mr. Mayor,

Looking forward to the friendship of our two cities,
we greet you from Hayward, California, USA.

2006 OFFICERS

Chair

John M. Caldwell

Vice-Chair

Taymur Malikiyar

Secretary

Tarek Naward

Corresponding

Secretary

Dawn Erickson

Treasurer

Hamid Nekrawesh

At this time, we are writing to ask for an expression
of interest from you to create a relationship between our two
cities, Ghazni and Hayward, as "Sister-Cities."

These relationships, formalized through the
International Sister Cities Organization, are non-binding and
create no financial burden on either city. Rather the
relationships commit the two participant cities to cultural
exchanges, community enrichment opportunities, and the
voluntary extension of assistance in times of need. In Ghazni,
at this time, we would expect to continue our efforts to offer
aid in areas of education. Here is a list of the various activities
that we have so far engaged in with Ghazni. Under a Sister
City relationship, we would continue these and similar
activities.

As you may know, our representative, Mr. Bilal
Murtaza, visited the Jahan Malika School in Ghazni in the
summer of 2003, to initiate a cultural exchange with the Tyrell
Elementary School, which is a school located here in Hayward.
Mr. Murtaza expected only to display artwork sent by the
children of Hayward, but he was also able to make a permanent
contribution to the Jahan Malika School by having desks built
for one of the girls' classes.

In 2004, our organization participated in hosting
Governor Assadullah Khaled, then the Governor of Ghazni
Province, when he visited in Hayward and the San Francisco
Bay Area of Northern California.

DRAFT OF PROPOSED LETTER TO THE MAYOR OF GHAZNI

In 2005, we assisted Camilla Berry and a group of American high school and middle school science teachers to visit Ghazni, to train teachers in modern methods for teaching science. This program we expect to repeat in 2006.

This spring, we are planning to initiate a new project in Ghazni, the Afghan Widows Literacy Project. It has been operating successfully already in Kabul, and we are hoping that the Ghazni program will be as successful. We are planning that Rahima Asefi Haya, the leader of the project, and a delegation from our Committee, will fly from Hayward to visit Ghazni in late March or early April of 2006, to set up the project.

We in Hayward are very proud of these small steps which the Hayward-Ghazni Sister City Formation Committee has been able to contribute to the reconstruction of Afghanistan. Our group, made up of Afghan-Americans and Americans of other cultures, is comprised of local volunteers. We raise the funds for our activities from private fundraising events and contributions from businesses and individuals.

If you would be willing to honor us with your participation in a Sister City relationship, we would respectfully request that you return to us, on your letterhead, a letter indicating your interest in having Ghazni have a "Sister City" relationship with Hayward, California, USA.

This should be addressed to Mayor Roberta Cooper, the Mayor of Hayward, and we have taken the liberty of enclosing a sample of what such a letter might look like. (Of course you can change or add to it.). If you will be so kind as to return it to us on your letterhead, we will present it to the Mayor of Hayward and will arrange to follow through on the official approval process of a Sister City relationship.

We look forward to working with you toward a world of peace and friendship among all peoples.

Sincerely,

John Caldwell, Chair,
Hayward-Ghazni Sister Cities Formation
Committee.

DRAFT OF PROPOSED LETTER TO THE MAYOR OF GHAZNI

Honorable Roberta Cooper
Mayor of Hayward, California
City Hall
777 – B Street
Hayward, CA, USA
(510)583-4340

RE: Proposed Hayward-Ghazni Sister City Relationship

To the Honorable Roberta Cooper, Mayor of Hayward, California, greetings:

Our attention has been directed to the efforts of citizens of your city of Hayward, California, to participate in cultural and educational programs in Ghazni City, Province of Ghazni, Afghanistan. We are pleased to learn that both Afghan Americans and Americans of other ethnicities are interested in Afghanistan, and particularly Ghazni.

As Mayor of Ghazni it is my pleasure to welcome these efforts, and I would be pleased to lead Ghazni into discussions aimed at concluding a formal "Sister City" relationship, under the Sister Cities International protocol, between Ghazni and Hayward.

Given this date: _____ at Ghazni, Afghanistan.

Hakim Ghaznival,
Mayor of Ghazni City,
Province of Ghazni, Afghanistan